Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

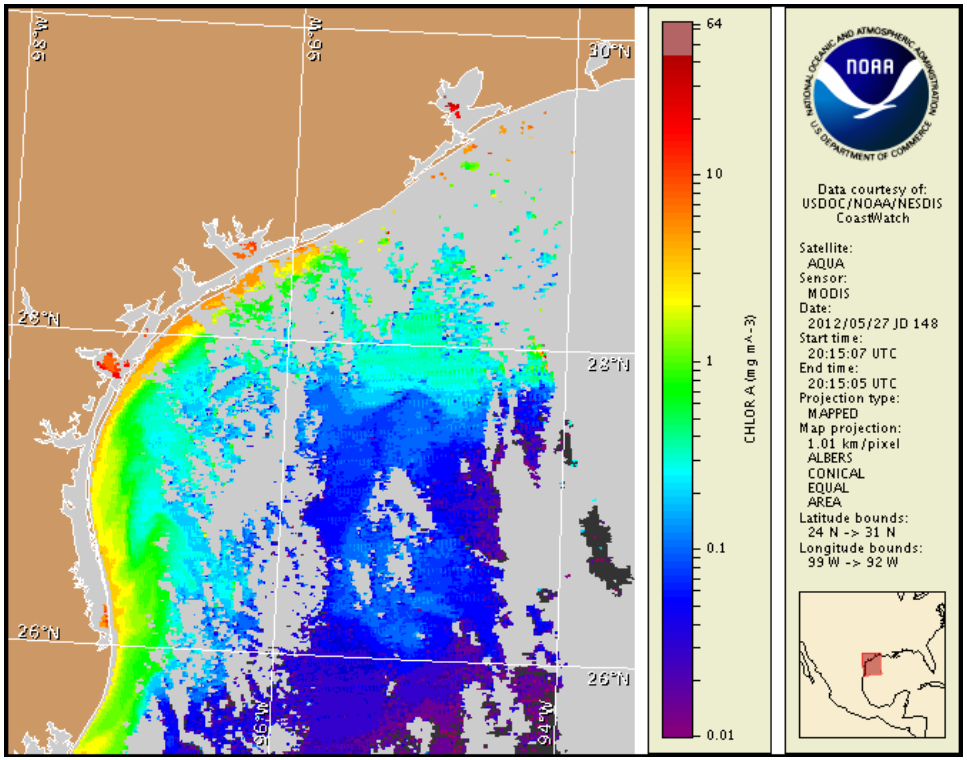
Tuesday, 29 May 2012

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, May 21, 2012



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from May 19 to 25 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Detailed sample information can be obtained through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at:

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us./landwater/water/environconcerns/hab/redtide/status.phtml

---

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html

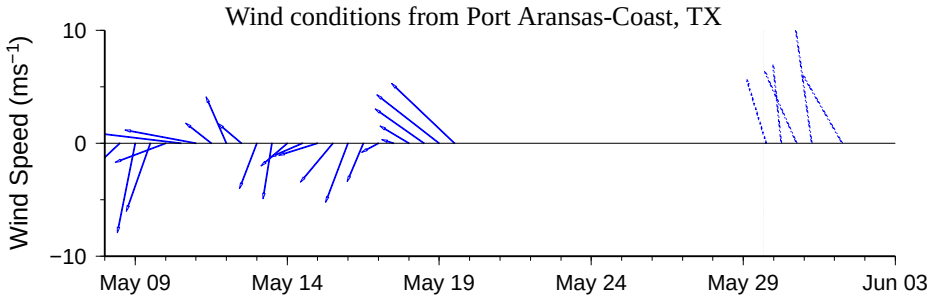
Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of Karenia brevis (Texas red tide) at the coast in Texas. No impacts are expected alongshore Texas today through Sunday, June 3. There is currently a bloom of the algae Aureoumbra lagunensis in the upper Laguna Madre region. This algae does not produce respiratory impacts associated with the Texas red tide caused by Karenia brevis, but it may cause discolored water.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of *Karenia brevis* at the coast in Texas. Recent MODIS imagery (5/27; shown left) is obscured by clouds along from Sabine Pass to northern Matagorda Peninsula region. Elevated chlorophyll (2 to 6 μg/L) is visible stretching along- and offshore the Texas coastline from the Matagorda Peninsula to the Padre Island region. Elevated chlorophyll is not indicative of the presence of *K. brevis* and is most likely due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments along the coast. Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of 60 km north from the Port Aransas region from May 27-June 1.

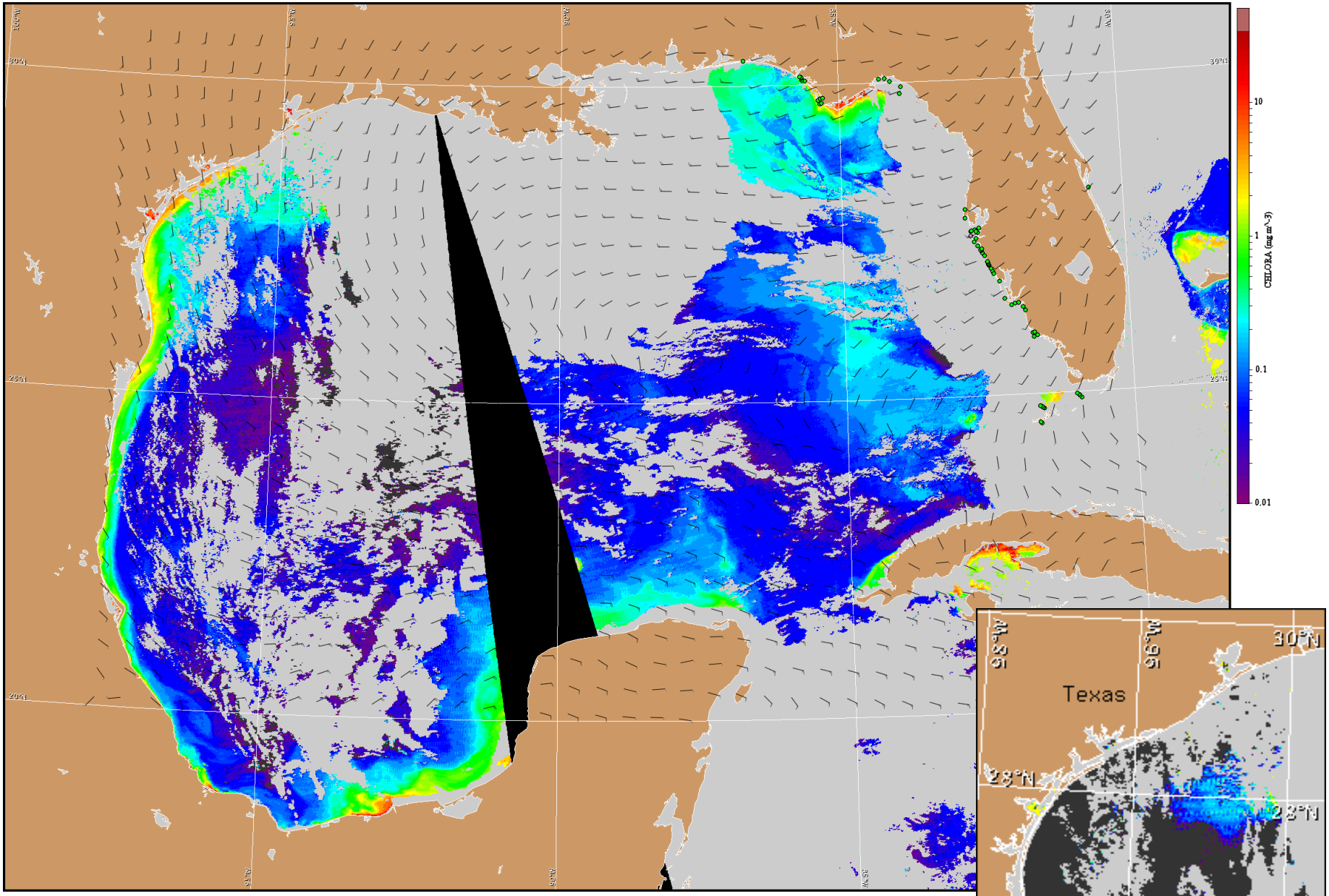
Yang, Derner



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

Port Aransas: South winds (15kn, 8m/s) today becoming southeast (10-15kn, 8-10m/s) in the late morning and afternoon, and then south (15-20kn, 8-10m/s) tonight. South winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) Wednesday shifting southeast (15-20kn) Wednesday afternoon and night, then becoming south (20-25kn, 10-13m/s) after midnight. South wind (20-25kn) Thursday becoming southeast (15-20kn) Thursday afternoon and night, decreasing to 10-15 kn after midnight. Southeast wind (5kn, 3m/s) Friday becoming east Friday afternoon, and then southeast (10kn) at night. Southeast wind (10-15kn) Saturday and Saturday night.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 30, 2012 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from May 19 to 25 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).